

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----050452Z 008812 /13
O 050335Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIAE 3670

S E C R E T SEOUL 3693

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR KS US
SUBJ: AIDE MEMOIRE ON ANTI-ROK ORGANIZATIONS IN U.S.

SUMMARY: MOFA AMERICAN BUREAU DIRECTOR PARK SAN GYANG CALLED IN POL COUNS MAY 5 TO HAND OVER AIDE MEMOIRE ON THE "DISTURBING ACTIVITIES" OF MARIOUS ANTI-ROK ORGANIZATIONS AND GROUPS IN U.S. AND INCIDENTALLY TO WEIGHT IN AGAIN ON ALLEGED EFFORT BY DEPT OF JUSTICE OFFICIAL TO SUBORN FORMER ROK AMBASSADOR HAM. END SUMMARY.

1. AIDE MEMOIRE INVITES OUR ATTENTION TO RECENT "DISTURBING ACTIVITIES OF CERTAIN ORGANIZATIONS AND GROUPS IN THE UNITED STATES, WHICH IF LEFT...UNCHECKED, WOULD BE DETRIMENTAL TO THE TRADITIONAL FRIENDLY AND COOPERATIVE RELATIONS" BETWEEN ROK AND U.S. AIDE MEMOIRE NOTES WITH DEEP CONCERN THAT ORGANIZATIONS' ACTIVITIES ARE OFTEN HEAVILY INCLINED "WILLFULLY OR COINCIDENTALLY" TOWARD NK POSITIONS, RAISING SUSPICION THEY MAY HAVE BEEN INFLUENCED BY "CERTAIN FOREIGN SOURCES" OUTSIDE U.S., AND STATES ACTIVITIES APPARENTLY AIMED AT "UNDERMINING" ROKG AND CREATING CLEAVAGE BETWEEN ROK AND U.S. TO BENEFIT NORTH KOREA. IT CONCLUDES WITH REQUEST "USG AUTHORITIES CONCERNED BE GOOD ENOUGH TO TAKE APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO DISCOURAGE SUCH DISTURBING ACTIVITIES IN THE UNITED STATES" IN

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MUTUAL INTEREST. ATTACHED TO AIDE MEMOIRE IS LIST OF EIGHT ORGANIZATION TOGETHER WITH NAMES OF LEADERS, LOCATIONS, AND DATES OF INCEPTION; LIST, WITH LEADERS IN BRACKETS, INCLUDES: KOREA LINK (REF. GUATAV SCHULTZ), AMERICAN-KOREAN FRIENDSHIP INFORMATION CENTER (GEORGE B. MURPHY, JR), COMMITTEE FOR SOLIDARITY WITH KOREAN PEOPLE (JAN AUSTIN), KOREAN CONGRESS FOR

DEMOCRACY AND UNIFICATION (BYUNG KUK AHN, SUK WON KANG),
VETERANS ASSOCIATION FOR SALVATION OF FATHERLAND (SUK
NAM CHOI, SUK YOON CHANG), NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR
RESTORATION OF DEMOCRACY IN KOREA (YONG WOON LEE, SANG
DON KIM, WON HA KIM, DONG KUN HONG, SANG DAL CHA),
ASSOCIATION FOR DEMOCRATIC UNIFICATION OF KOREA (CHANG
YOUNG LIM, CHANG BO SHIM), UNITED MOVEMENT FOR
DEMOCRACY IN KOREA (YONG WOON LEE, SANG DAL CHA, JAE JYUN LEE).

2. IN DELIVERING AIDE MEMOIRE DIRECTOR PARK SAID ACTIVITIES
OF THESE GROUPS INCLUDED PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS AND DISSEMINATION
OF LITERATURE OPPOSING PRESIDENT PARKS' REGIME AND DEMANDING
RELEASE OF PRISONERS AS WELL AS WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS AND NUCLEAR
WEAPONS. IN ADDITION TO LISTED ORGANIZATIONS PARK CLAIMED
"COMMITTEE ON NEW DIRECTION FOR U.S. KOREA POLICY" ALSO ENGAGED
IN ABOVE TYPE ACTIVITIES. HE ALSO NOTED "NEW, WORRISOME TREND"
SEEMED TO BE EMERGING WITH INVITATION TO LEFTIST JAPANESE FOR
SEMINAR THIS SUMMER GIVEN BY INSTITUTE FOR POLICY STUDIES IN
WASHINGTON, DC. PARK WAS HOPEFUL USG COULD DO SOMETHING TO
THWART THIS ALSO, ALTHOUGH HE HAD NO SPECIFIC INDICATION AS TO
WHAT MIGHT BE WRONG WITH SEMINAR OR INVITATION TO JAPANESE.

3. POL COUNS IN RESPONSE TO ABOVE POINTED OUT THAT NOTHING CITED
IN AIDE MEMOIRE OR PARK'S COMMENTS APPEARED ILLEGAL, THAT HE
WOULD RELUCTANTLY CONVEY AIDE MEMOIRE TO AMBASSADOR, BUT THAT
HE WAS SURE USG COULD NOT AND WOULD NOT TAKE ACTION ON BASIS SUCH
ALLEGATIONS AND REQUESTS. INDEED, U.S. AID CONSTITUTIONAL
PROVISIONS PROTECTING ACTIVITIES AS DESCRIBED, THAT AIDE MEMOIRE
SHOWED DEEPLY WORRISOME LACK OF UNDERSTANDING OF UNITED STATES,
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THAT, IN SUM, IT SEEMED "UNREAL." IF ROKG HAD ANY REAL
EVIDENCE OF ILLEGAL ACTIONS TO PRESENT WE WOULD RECEIVE THEM.
CITING AMBASSADOR'S EARLIER CONVERSATION ON THIS MATTER WITH
VICE MINISTER YUN (SEOUL 3335) POL COUNS NOTED AGAIN THAT PROBLEM
WAS NOT ANTI-ROKG ORGANIZATIONS BUT ROK HUMAN RIGHTS AND OTHER
POLICIES WHICH HAD GIVEN RISE TO CONCERNS ABOUT KOREA IN UNITED
STATES. CLEARLY DISCOMFITED--AT ONE POINT TEARS WELLED IN
HIS EYES--PARK DUTIFULLY REITERATED HIS POINTS.

4. PRIOR TO ABOVE PARK ALSO REITERATED ROKG'S COMPLAINT ABOUT
AMBASSADOR HAM AFFAIR. WHEN POL COUNS WENT OVER
GUIDANCE IN STATE 98837, PARK INDICATED THIS MIGHT SUFFICE
BUT WARNED AT SAME TIME THAT NATIONAL ASSEMBLYMEN WERE DEEPLY
INDIGNANT AND MIGHT RAISE ISSUE DURING JUNE ASSEMBLY SESSION
AND AGAIN IN FALL BUDGET SESSION. ACKNOWLEDGING THAT MATTER
COULD ALSO BE RAISED IN 1978 AND 1979 SESSIONS, POL COUNS
SAID THIS WOULD DO NEITHER ROK, U.S., OR MUTUAL RELATIONSHIP
ANY GOOD.

COMMENT: UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED BY DEPARTMENT, POL COUNS

UNDER INSTRUCTION FROM AMBASSADOR WILL RETURN
AIDE MEMOIRE TO PARK ON MAY 6. HE WILL REITERATE POINTS
PARA 3 ABOVE AND STATE THAT AIDE MEMOIRE UNACCEPTABLE. PO
COUNS WILL ALSO ADVISE PARK THAT IF ROKS CONTINUE TO PURSUE
THIS TACK AND MAKE PUBLIC THESE UNSUBSTANTIATED ALLEGATIONS
WE PLAN TO TAKE VERY STRONG PUBLIC POSITION CONDEMNING ROKG
POSITION.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIDE MEMOIRE, DISSIDENT FACTIONS
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Sent Date: 05-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
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Review Event:
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2627707
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AIDE MEMOIRE ON ANTI-ROK ORGANIZATIONS IN U.S. SUMMARY: MOFA AMERICAN BUREAU DIRECTOR PARK SAN GYANG CALLED IN POL COUNS MAY 5 TO HAND OVER AIDE MEMOIRE ON THE
TAGS: PFOR, KS, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5e68179a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009